

REMARKS:

Reconsideration of the rejections set forth in the Final Office Action mailed January 23, 2009 and entry of the present amendment is requested because Applicants respectfully submit that the present Amendment places the application in condition for allowance or in better form for consideration on appeal.

In response to the Final Office Action and the Advisory Action mailed April 8, 2009, claims 92, 95-99, 101, 105-110, 113, 114, 149, 150, 152, 154-158, 181-190, and 203 have been canceled without prejudice, and claims 192 and 200 have been amended. Therefore, claims 191-202 are currently pending with claims 196 and 198 withdrawn as directed to nonelected species.

As an initial matter, Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication that claims 191-195, 197, and 199-202 are allowed. Since withdrawn claims 196 and 198 depend from allowed generic claim 191, Applicants request that these claims be reinstated and that these claims should also be allowable.

Turning to the § 112, second paragraph, rejection, claim 200 has been amended to recite that the tubular member *and support member* comprise a co-extrusion. This amendment is supported by the original disclosure, e.g., in paragraph [0116]. As amended, Applicants submit that claim 200 should now be definite. Therefore, the § 112, second paragraph, rejection should be withdrawn.

With respect to the objection to claim 192, Applicants have amended claim 192 to correct the typographical error, as suggested by the Examiner.

Since the application now only includes allowed claims (or withdrawn claims that depend from the allowed claims), the application should now be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of the application.

If there are any remaining issues that can be resolved by telephone, Applicants invite the Examiner to contact the undersigned at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,
VISTA IP LAW GROUP LLP

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